EIMS News
December, 2005

EIMS Enhancements
The next major release will be at the end of February and will include the following:
- Two Tiered Match Weight Criteria – more matches, more accuracy
- Sort in Needs Resolution List & Improved Navigation
- Additional Match Information will be available – entry and exit dates
- Indicator When a File's Been Uploaded
- STI Lookup and Assignment
- Usability Improvements & Faster Turnaround of Files
- Return STI's even when other records fall into Needs Resolution
- Transfer report enhancements
- Additional Functionality of Existing Reports
- Updated documentation

Educational Technology Conference
There were two presentations about School Interoperability Framework (SIF) and a Birds-of-a-Feather type presentation about EIMS. The SIF presentations covered the benefits of SIF and implementing SIF. Included are **DOE's plans to roll out SIF in Divisions –** see more below. The EIMS presentation focused on the last year's accomplishments, current improvements and plans to **improve file management processing** by the end of February, which should greatly improve your experience.
The PowerPoint slides are available at: http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Technology/EIMS/

One of the suggestions was to post the contact information of the person who actually works with the data (not usually the EIMS project manager) when there are Needs Resolution or data questions. I plan on using the existing SIS Contact instead of the EIMS Project Manager list. Please contact me if this is not preferred.

SIF
The DOE is currently rolling out the SIF locator/resolver (division's SIS to EIMS) to five expanded pilot divisions. Plans call for continuing the rollout to 25 more divisions running SASI between now and the end of June. [*Locator/resolver of SIF means that you don't have to upload your data to EIMS to get your STIs and download the file into your Student Information System.*] The Edustructure's SASI locator/resolver agent and zone integration server (ZIS) software limited-use license will be at no charge. The division is responsible for providing a server for the ZIS software and any installation costs. Server specs are available by calling Peter Coleman 804-225-2039. Please note that an existing server could be repurposed as a ZIS. Also note that a horizontal expansion to a full license would cost approximately .29 per student. Other SIS agents will be next year as funds allow; however you can purchase your own agent and still enjoy the attractive per student horizontal expansion of .29 per student.
Implementations will be first come; first serve and all others will be on a waiting list. **Please call me if you are interested in implementing SIF in your division** or if you have any questions at

804-225-2039. For more information about SIF go to: www.sifinfo.org ; more information about Edustructures can be found at: http://www.edustructures.com/